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tant from the horizon considerable more, and from the Zenith, *evidently much less*, than the above number of degrees.

This is an obvious phenomenon, seemingly at variance with what is taught, and not explained, as far as I have met with, in any common book of Astronomy.

I am yours, &c.,

STAR-GAZER.

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

MEDICAL REPORT FROM THE PHYSICIAN BELONGING TO THE INSTITUTION FOR ADMINISTERING MEDICAL AID TO THE SICK POOR, AND ASSISTING THEM AND THEIR FAMILIES WITH THE NECESSARIES OF LIFE DURING SICKNESS; AND FOR PREVENTING THE SPREADING OF CONTAGIOUS DISEASES.

THE year 1812 was ushered in with an unusual number of Catarrhal and Pulmonary Affections, exceeding both in severity and duration those cases which came under the observation of the writer, during the month of January, in the preceding year. In many of those cases, which are placed under the head of Catarrh, the symptoms were so severe, and the lungs so much engaged, as to require the use of the lancet. None of those which came under the observation of the writer were immediately fatal; in many instances, however, through the neglect of the unhappy sufferers, a foundation was laid for Pthisis, the most deplorable disease that afflicts the human body. Accordingly, we find this disease much more frequent during the early part of this year, than during the early part of 1811, when Catarrhal and Pulmonary affections were not so numerous,

nor marked with symptoms of such severity.

Dysentery prevailed to a considerable extent during this month. In many instances, the symptoms were severe, and the duration of the disease protracted to a considerable length. In all, purging, when applied under favourable circumstances, was eminently successful. In some of those tedious cases, where, from neglect of timely application, the severity of the symptoms had broken down the strength of the patient, and the use of active remedies was necessarily suspended, the combination of nitrous acid and opium, so strongly recommended by some of the English physicians, was exhibited with some appearance of success.

During this month, we had our usual proportion of fever.

During the month of February, the quantity of fever was not increased; and the Catarrhal and Pulmonary affections were diminished, both in number and severity. Dysentery, however, still held its ground, and in many instances its cure was tedious and troublesome. None of those cases, which came under the observation of the writer, proved fatal.

During this month, the writer had an opportunity of treating a disease, as rare in its occurrence, as it is imperfectly understood, even by the most eminent practitioners. Pilegmasia dolens is a disease, which has been scarcely noticed by the ancient writers, and excited but little of the attention of the moderns, till the appearance of Mr. White's inquiry into its nature and causes, which was published in the year 1784. From the reports of this work, we may fairly infer, that it is not a disease which often occurs to the medical practitioner. As a proof of the rarity of its occurrence, Mr.

White mentions, that of 1897 women delivered at the Westminster General Dispensary, five only were attacked with it; and of 8000 women delivered at the Manchester Hospital, and their own houses, four only were seized with this disease. Dr. Thomas says, that during a period of thirty years, a solitary case had fallen under his care; and is of opinion, that where we find physicians recounting numerous cases which came under their observation, we may presume, that they have mistaken other diseases for it, such as Anasarca, Phlegmon, Erysipelas, Abscess, Rheumatism, Peritonitis, and Puerperal fever.

The period at which this disease comes on is very variable. In the present instance, the patient was attacked on the fifth day after delivery; in four days after, she was visited by the writer. The right thigh, leg, and foot, were uniformly swelled, throughout their whole extent, firm, tense, and exquisitely painful when touched; their colour much whiter than natural; heat, thirst, restlessness, and the other symptoms of Pyrexia attended; and the patient was considerably reduced by a Diarrhea of several days standing. To support the strength of the patient, a nutritious diet, with a moderate quantity of wine, was directed, together with astringents to check the severity of the Diarrhea; while the swelled limb was ordered to be frequently fomented with warm vinegar. This treatment was continued for three days, at the end of which time, the febrile symptoms had, in a great degree, subsided; the Diarrhea had ceased; the pain and tension of the limb were considerably diminished; and the general strength greatly improved. The swelling, however, still remained in the same state. A large blister was now applied to the calf of the

leg, which produced a copious discharge: at the end of twenty four hours the leg was reduced to its natural size and appearance. Another blister was then applied to the thigh; a copious discharge from which, producing similar good effects, the swelling of the limb completely subsided, and did not return. The other limb now began to swell, but by the timely application of a tight bandage of flannel, constantly worn round it, the effusion was checked, and the progress of the disease completely arrested.

Rheumatism was frequently on our list during this month.

March exhibits a still further diminution of pulmonary and bowel affection: the quantity of fever however was considerably increased. Several intermittents are to be found upon the list this month. This species of fever seldom comes under the care of the physicians of the institution. Whenever it came under the observation of the writer, he seldom found bark exhibited with success. The failure, however, of this medicine he thinks, must be attributed to the adulterated state in which it is exhibited. In this opinion he is strengthened by frequent observation; and is convinced, that, in almost all the cases of intermittent fever, in which bark fails in removing the disease, the medicine, upon examination, will be found impure; and therefore its failure may be fairly attributed to its impurity. This would be a point of considerable importance to ascertain with certainty. It might prevent the necessity of exhibiting those poisonous drugs, to which physicians are compelled to have recourse, in the event of the failure of bark in this disease, which, though they may succeed in removing the intermittent, yet are frequently productive of lasting injury to the constitution.

During this month, rheumatism prevailed to a considerable extent.

In its acute stage, rheumatism always yields to the usual evacuations; of these, blood-letting is chiefly relied on; yet, in those cases which came under the observation of the writer, venesection was seldom necessary; and in no case was he obliged to go beyond a single bleeding; which, when followed by moderate purging and sweating, he has never known to fail in removing the disease.

A new method of treating acute Rheumatism, by a liberal and early use of bark, has been lately introduced by some very eminent physicians. Dr. Fordyce, in his third dissertation on fever, informs us, that, for the last fifteen years, he has entirely discontinued bleeding in this disease; and that he had not lost above two or three patients, although he had treated several hundreds in this way; and adds, that when he practised bleeding largely in acute rheumatism, metastases were very apt to take place, and to destroy the patient, an accident which had rarely happened since he had adopted a different mode of treatment. Dr. Haygarth also, in his *Clinical History of diseases*, assures us, that having left off bleeding for some years, he has found the bark, except in a very few cases, to produce the most salutary effects in acute rheumatism.

The result of the writer's experience might seem to countenance, in some degree, the opinions of these gentlemen concerning the use of blood-letting in this disease. An inference, however, of this kind, cannot be fairly drawn from what he has stated. On the contrary, it appears to him, that his statement serves to show, that those cases which came under the care of Dr. Fordyce and Dr. Haygarth, as well

as those which came under his observation at the Institution, were of too slight a nature to require the use of the lancet; just as we frequently meet slight cases of pleuritis, which yield to the application of a blister, while severe and completely formed attacks of this disease, can only be resisted by the more active remedy of blood-letting. Indeed, Dr. Haygarth himself appears to acknowledge this, and to doubt the universal success of his favourite remedy; for he very cautiously advises, in doubtful cases, to have recourse to the usual remedy of blood-letting. In other words, he confesses, as every rational physician must, that there are some cases of acute rheumatism, in which blood-letting may be omitted, while there are others which absolutely require that evacuation.

Although the writer cannot, from his own experience, condemn the employment of blood-letting, or recommend the use of bark in acute rheumatism, yet, when this disease assumes the chronic form, under which it proves so severe a visitation to the poor, he has frequently employed the latter remedy with unequivocal advantage. In many cases, he has joined it with nitrate of potass, and had always reason to prefer this combination to the exhibition of the bark in a separate form.

During the month of April, pectoral affections were considerably increased: we find marked upon our list forty-seven cases of asthma. The majority of these were, as is usual, of that species called humid asthma. Indeed, the writer has seldom met an instance of pure spasmodic asthma during the period of his attendance upon the Institution. And, perhaps, he has reason to congratulate himself upon the rarity of a disease, which, depending in ge-

neral upon a malconformation of the chest, or hereditary predisposition, can derive but little relief from medicine, and is seldom, if ever, entirely removed.

The nature of asthma is but imperfectly understood. A late writer, Dr. Bree, has endeavoured to build a theory of this disease upon the humoral pathology; and attempts to connect more closely the humid and spasmodic asthma. His principal arguments in support of this theory are drawn from appearances, exhibited upon dissection; and, consequently, must be inconclusive.

It is foreign to the nature and design of this report, to enter upon an inquiry into the theory of asthma. The writer gives this opinion, which has been advanced by Dr. Bree, merely to have an opportunity of rejecting it, as built upon appearances which are fallacious; and of expressing his conviction, that the nature and causes of this disease will never be explained, by the reveries of all the morbid anatomists in the world.

In Spasmodic Asthma, little more can be done, than palliate the distressing symptoms; and we are frequently unable to do so much for the unhappy sufferer. In humid asthma, however, we can frequently afford considerable relief. In most of the cases which came under the care of the writer, during this month, blistering, which seldom gives relief in spasmodic asthma, produced the best effects in the humid species; when the discharge was kept up for a considerable time, it proved singularly useful. Expectorants also, which in spasmodic asthma have seldom afforded much relief, often proved, in the humid species, a very important remedy. Of this class of medicines, the writer has found a combination of squill with lac ammoniacum the most successful. All

our exertions, however, will not prevent this deplorable disease from terminating frequently in consumption or dropsy; or perhaps putting an end to the miseries of the unhappy sufferer, by sudden suffocation; when long protracted asthma ends in pthisis or dropsy, of which the writer has witnessed many instances among the poor, he need not say the case is always hopeless.

During this month, we find the quantity of fever still somewhat increased.

May exhibits, upon our list, thirty three cases of pneumonia. This considerably exceeds the quantity of this disease to be found in any other month during this year. From the nature and causes of pneumonia, we are naturally led to expect to find it most prevalent in winter and spring. We are often, however, as in the present instance, disappointed in our expectation; for we frequently find the warm season of summer producing a greater quantity of this disease, than the cold season of winter, or the variable weather of spring. We may easily account for this, by supposing, that a much greater degree of caution is employed in guarding against cold and wet in winter and spring, when the disease is feared, than in summer, when the bad consequences resulting from exposure to these causes are always, though without reason, less dreaded by the poor. This, added to the sudden changes of temperature, to which the bodies of the labouring poor are more subject in summer than in winter, may possibly account for the more frequent occurrences of pneumonia, in the former than in the latter season.

Upon the treatment employed in pneumonia, the writer has but little to offer. Blood-letting is often carried to a great extent in this disease, and early and copious bleed-

ings from the system, are considered necessary for its effectual removal. The writer is satisfied, that the earlier we resort to blood letting in pneumonia, the more certainly will the disease be resisted. But he denies the necessity of losing those enormous quantities of blood, which he has sometimes known to be drawn from persons labouring under this disease, by rash and ignorant pretenders to medicine, when they have not been under the controul of a physician. A great and prevailing error of irregular practitioners in the treatment of diseases, with which they are but imperfectly acquainted, is the indiscriminate use of an established remedy, without any regard to the constitution, or peculiar habits, which distinguish different patients, and often different classes of patients, from each other. It requires not much trouble to prove, that the robust and active labourer will bear copious blood-letting better than the feeble and sedentary mechanic; and that the powerful constitution of the former will be less exhausted by the loss of forty ounces of blood, suddenly removed from the system, than the debilitated frame of the latter. Yet we often find empirical men taking those unreasonable quantities of blood, from the strong and the weak indiscriminately; and although the former generally recover under the treatment, yet they sometimes do but escape from their sanguinary attendants, while the latter frequently fall victims to the injudicious application of a powerful remedy. The writer is convinced, that even some strong and robust men, labouring under pneumonic affections, die of the debility induced by intemperate blood letting. In the course of his own practice, he never had occasion to direct more than sixteen ounces of blood to be drawn in the

beginning; the second and third bleeding never exceeded twelve ounces; and, although he has treated many severe cases, he never had occasion to go farther. On the whole, the writer is convinced from experience, that the pneumonic affections which come under the care of the physicians of the Institution, will be most successfully treated by moderate bleeding; and with respect to the treatment of the disease in general, he is of opinion, that although some patients will bear copious blood-letting, and recover under it, yet even in these cases it is not absolutely necessary; moderate bleeding, appearing to him a remedy equally certain, and less dangerous in its consequences, to the constitution.

During this month, the quantity of fever was not diminished.

Next to fever, which was now making rapid advances, we find dropsy the prominent disease on our list for June.

The treatment of dropsy is peculiarly embarrassing to the physician. The principal remedies in anasarca are debilitating; while one of the chief objects of the physician, in the treatment of the disease, is to obviate great debility. In ascites our labours are still more fruitless. Obstruction in the liver, or some of the other viscera of the abdomen, is the most frequent cause of this species of dropsy; as these obstructions are usually incurable, we find that ascites is seldom completely removed. After a good deal of experience in both species of this disease, the writer is of opinion, that active purgatives, whose operation is followed by great debility, are seldom admissible in anasarca. In ascites, unless at the commencement of the disease, he believes them to be always positively injurious. In the treatment of dropsy, the writer has

of late employed the means recommended by the author of the treatise upon the principal diseases of Dublin. The plan there recommended is, to give a combination of calomel and squill, occasionally adding digitalis, every night, with as much of a purging electuary, during the course of the day, as will serve to keep the bowels perfectly free. The writer has frequently followed this plan; and in simple anasarca, when not produced by any organic obstruction, has found it uniformly successful. In ascites, however, and those cases of anasarca arising from diseases of the abdominal viscera, like every other remedy, it has often failed.

The writer is aware, that in this mode of treating dropsy, there is nothing new; and the author to whose work he has referred, appears to him to claim for it, not the merit of novelty, but of success. Considering it the best mode of treating this disease, which has yet come under his observation, to the testimony already given of its success, he thinks it necessary to add his own.

Cholera, dysentery, ophthalmia, and fever, were the prevailing diseases of July. The first, sudden in its attack, violent, and alarming in its symptoms, when properly treated, seldom proves fatal. Indeed, the writer never knew a case of simple unminged cholera terminate in death. Sometimes, however, where regular medical aid could not be procured in the beginning of the attack, the symptoms have been so violent, and the progress of the disease so rapid, as to carry off the patient before the termination of the second day. Upon the treatment of this disease, the writer thinks it unnecessary to make any observation. He need only remark, that in all those cases which came under his care, a liberal

use of opium was always necessary, and always successful.

During this and the succeeding autumnal months, dysentery prevailed to a considerable extent. This disease occasionally occurs at all seasons; but from the middle of summer to the end of autumn, it is seen more frequently than at any other period of the year. During this season, we always find its symptoms more purely dysenteric, than in winter or spring, when it is generally combined with cough, catarrh, and sometimes rheumatism. It is probably to this combination, that we may ascribe the good effects of diaphoretics in some cases of dysentery; in pure unminged cases of this disease, the writer thinks he has never seen the least advantage derived from the exhibition of this class of medicines.

Upon the treatment of ophthalmia, which frequently came under our care, during this month, the writer has but little to offer. The disease, as is usual among the poor, was severe, and sometimes very tedious. Immediate and decided relief was always obtained from the opening of the temporal artery; blistering and active purging generally rendered the repetition of blood letting unnecessary.

During this month, the quantity of fever was not diminished.

Cholic, rheumatism, and fever, were the prominent diseases upon our list for August. The first yielded in every case to the common remedies: of the treatment of the second we have already spoken. During this month, fever absorbed almost our entire attention; it had now arrived at its height, and raged with great severity.

Independent of the permanent causes which operate in the production of fever, in this quarter of the city, we had this year an additional

source of this disease, in the severe calamities which visited the poor during a period of almost unexampled distress. To the many causes of fever already existing, were now superadded the horrors of famine, which facilitated its communication, and increased the rapidity of its progress. Although the disease was frequent, and the symptoms in general severe, and of the worst kind; yet the writer does not think, that fever was, on the whole, unusually fatal this year among the poor.

Upon the treatment of fever, the writer thinks it unnecessary to dwell. It is now so well established, at least in its general outline, and so well understood, that comment would, in his opinion, be entirely superfluous. He cannot, however, leave this subject, without taking some notice of the practice of bleeding in small quantities, which has been lately much employed in the treatment of fever, by Doctor Thomas Mitis, of this city. Having fully learned the principles upon which his practice was founded, and having witnessed the effects of the remedy, in numerous cases in Cork-street Fever Hospital, the writer resolved to give it a fair trial, in the course of his practice in the Institution. The result of the trial fully answered his expectations. It is unnecessary to record the details of numerous cases in which it was tried; the writer thinks it sufficient to state, that after a full and fair trial of blood-letting, in every kind of fever which came under his care, he found, that in most instances it was attended with decided advantages, and in all, was employed with perfect safety.

September exhibits the quantity of fever still undiminished. The other diseases which prevailed during this month, were, catarrh, cholera, cholera, and dysentery; as all

these have occupied a portion of our attention in the preceding pages, it is unnecessary to dwell upon them again.

Catarrh, pneumonia, rheumatism, and fever, were the prevailing diseases of October. The quantity of catarrh was considerably less this month, than the preceding; fever, however, still continued to rage with unabated severity.

During this month a case of purpura hæmorrhagica, a disease of rare occurrence, came under the care of the writer: for the history and characteristic symptoms of this disease, the reader is referred to the well known work of Willan. It will be necessary, however, to remark, that his plates bear but an imperfect resemblance to the disease as described by himself, and as it appeared to the writer on the present occasion. In the case of this patient, a child of six years of age, the writer was unable to trace the disease to any of the causes usually assigned by medical writers for its appearance. It was completely subdued by a free use of wine and sulphuric acid, with occasional purging.

Asthma, cholera, pneumonia, rheumatism, and fever were the prevailing diseases of November. Fever was not sensibly diminished in quantity, it had now however begun to assume a milder form. The quantity of acute rheumatism was, this month, considerably increased; a few cases only required blood-letting. The sweating process was employed with decided advantage in all the cases which came under the observation of the writer.

December exhibits a considerable diminution in the quantity of fever: the epidemic seemed now in a great degree to have spent its force; and the fevers which occurred during this month were not marked by those malignant characters, which accom-

panied the disease in the preceding. They were frequently however attended with pulmonary affections, which rendered the use of the lancet indispensably necessary. Pneumonia, rheumatism and pthisis were the other diseases which, during this month, principally occupied our attention. In the appearances of these the writer found nothing to call for observation.

The Table of diseases which accompanies this report exhibits a decrease of six hundred and forty two below the number which appears upon our list the preceding year. The writer does not attribute this decrease entirely to a diminution in the actual quantity of disease during this period. He is inclined to suppose that it was in some degree the consequence of the severe distresses of the poor, which forced them to provide for their immediate necessities and called off their thoughts from many slight maladies which under other circumstances would have occupied their attention. Allowing, however, largely for this source of diminution, it will still be found, that there has been a sensible decrease in the actual quantity of disease during the past year.

Upon inspecting our annual list, we find, that, of the principal diseases which it comprizes, fever alone experienced a considerable increase; the cause of this increase has been already sufficiently explained. Anasarca and ascites were less prevalent last year, than the preceding. During the last five or six years the number of dropsical complaints in general, has gradually declined. This is principally owing, in the opinion of the writer, to the increasing temperance of the poor, arising, he is sorry to confess, rather from the greater poverty of their circumstances, than the improved state of their morals.

Pectoral, and bowel complaints,

which always rank high upon our lists, experienced a considerable reduction during the past year.

We find also, that rheumatic affections were diminished both in number and severity.

In hepatitis there appears a slight increase above the number of the preceding year.

In measles there was a remarkable diminution during the past year. In 1811 the number upon the list was 144, in 1812 the number was only 57. The symptoms, however, were in many cases severe, and the disease perhaps more than commonly fatal.

In 1812 small pox was somewhat increased. The writer, however, concludes that this was owing to accidental circumstances, not at all affecting the practice of vaccination, the propriety of which, he conceives, has been already fully and fairly established.

Another year has closed upon the useful and laborious duties of this far-famed institution. The friends of suffering humanity will rejoice to learn, that its character now stands upon so high a ground, that the numerous and solid advantages which it affords, are as eagerly solicited as they are freely and extensively circulated among the poorer classes of society. To those who particularly watch over its interests, and are more immediately concerned in its advancement, it will be no less grateful to hear, that, for its attention to the wants of the sick poor, it now stands unrivalled amongst all the charitable institutions of this great city. It is unnecessary for the writer to enter upon an inquiry into the causes of this increasing confidence in the exertions of the institution, or trace the source of that high place which it now holds in public estimation. The causes and the source rise spontaneously to our view; the anxious and unremitting

care of its watchful guardians, and the assiduous attention of its medical officers, to the painful and laborious duties of their situation, naturally present themselves to the most superficial observation; and put forth an irresistible claim to the production of those happy effects, which, are at once the source of pleasing reflections to us, and of lasting advantages to the unhappy objects of the institution. Numerous however, and solid as are the advantages which this institution holds forth to the wretched objects of its care, still, it is matter of deep regret, that the means which are at our disposal, are far from being commensurate to the opportunities which daily offer, of alleviating the miseries of the afflicted poor. In this wretched quarter of the city, to which our exertions are confined, poverty appears almost exclusively to have taken up her dreary abode; the narrow streets and passages with which it abounds; the ruined houses tottering to their base, containing within their walls the seeds of every disease that afflicts the human body; the meagre form, squalid looks and drooping spirits, even of those of its poorer inhabitants, who enjoy an ordinary degree of health, mark the extreme misery which pervades this region of distress; and would almost tempt the stranger, unused to scenes like these, to pause and inquire whether he were passing through the habitations of the living, or had entered amongst the tombs of the dead.

Where such extreme poverty prevails, disease with all its concomitant horrors must follow in its train; and the hand of sickness is sure to press more heavily on those whom want and hardships and privations have already bowed down to the earth. It is peculiarly distressing to the physician to be compelled to witness the unhappy objects of his

care, sinking under the effects of disease, induced, or at least considerably aggravated by the horrors of want; without the power of affording them the means of procuring the common support which nature requires, without which medical remedies are often worse than useless. Unfortunately, the limited revenues of the institution preclude the possibility of giving such assistance as circumstances often imperiously demand, and it not unfrequently happens that the physician after having successfully resisted the incursions of disease is obliged to submit to the hard necessity of leaving his miserable patient to perish for want of food. Were those on whom fortune has bestowed the means of ministering to the wants of the afflicted poor, to visit those regions of misery, where the children of poverty reside; were they to witness but once the scenes of desolation which are daily forced upon the view of the dispensary physician; were they to behold eight or ten human beings crowded into one narrow filthy room, which would scarcely afford space for one to breathe with freedom, some dying, others dead; the living without the means of procuring sustenance for themselves, and unable, except by their tears, to pay the last sad duties to their departed friends; were they to behold scenes like these, it would be unnecessary for us to appeal to the finer feelings of their souls; nature would assert her own rights; and prompt them to sooth the sorrows of the sufferers, and indulge in the luxury of charity.

Many are the sorrows which haunt the dreary paths of the unhappy victims of poverty: but the measure of their woes is not full till sickness has been added to the number of their calamities; then indeed their misery is great beyond expression.

Language cannot depict those scenes of horror, which wring the hearts and often draw tears from the eyes of those, whose duty leads them to visit the miserable dwellings of the sick poor. On those who know their distress from description only, the story of their woes can make but a faint and transitory impression. They must explore the mansions of the poor in order to know the extent of their misery. They must visit the ruined walls and roofless homes which scarce conceal the miserable victims of want from the winds of heaven. They must behold some wretched parent stretched upon the bed of death; they must see the paleness of his face; the wildness of his eye; then think upon the anguish of his heart; they must see him, while struggling in vain with the hand of death, cast an agonizing look upon his helpless family that stand around, then fall into fixed and motionless despair. From this heart-rending sight let them turn to the infant group that surround the couch of death, and hang upon the bosom of their expiring guardian; then let them, if they cannot save their sinking parent from the grave, at least mingle their tears with theirs; let them rescue them from the horrors of want, and lighten the burden of their misery.

This is a subject upon which the writer might enlarge without end. The limits of this report force him to conclude. He closes his observations, consoled by the reflection, that he has been employed in the discharge of a most important duty, and trusting that the result may hereafter prove, that he has not raised his warning voice in vain.

J. F. KEARNEY, M.D.

163, *Capel-street.*

For the Belfast Monthly Magazine.

X. IN ANSWER TO H.

(See *Magazine* for March last, p. 215.)

X. PRESENTS his compliments to his friend H. Although they be removed at a distance from each other in the *alphabet*, he trusts that they approximate in the best concerns of life, the love of liberty, and the cultivation of literature. Often indeed has X. fervently wished, that mankind, in their intercourse, would take example from the little republic of *Letters*, so void, as it is, of all jealousies, personalities, and party ambition; all its members combining for the common advantage of their commonwealth, and uniting to maintain with each other a good understanding; a republic, where every individual letter may in turn, like H., be exalted to a capital figure, or is content to serve his time, like X., in a subordinate situation. As the Spartans, who, on the eve of a battle, said to the general of the allies, "Place us, therefore, where you think fit, *there we shall endeavour to behave like brave men.*" And so do the *Letters*, always at their post of duty, and ready to obey the ruling intellect, on the principles of perfect parity, independent of state hire, or royal remuneration.

In all that H. has said with regard to John Knox, and the Reformation in Scotland, he seems, perhaps undesignedly, to have confounded stipend with bounty, a royal donative with a national establishment, and the will or pleasure of Queen Mary with the settled law of the land, as providing for the maintainance of the church. The Reformers in that country, who were headed by Knox, wished to have the Presbyterian re-